## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 AF-08 /063 W

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R 211622Z DEC 76 FM US MISSION EC BRUSSELS TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2654 INFO ALL EC CAPTIALS 2913 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA US MISSION OECD PARIS 3837

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E.. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAGR ETRD EEC SUBJECT: COFFEE PRICES

**REF: STATE 302391** 

1. EC COMMISION OFFICIALS WHO DEAL WITH COFFEE INDICATE EUROPEAN PUBLIC IS ALSO CONCERNED OVER RISING PRICE FOR GREEN COFFEE.THEY ADD, HOWEVER, THAT THEY BELIEVE CURRENT SHORTAGE OF SUPPLY, AND NOT CARTEL ACTIONS BY ONE OR MORE PRODUCERS, HAVE CAUSED PRICE INCREASE. THEY NOTE THAT THE FROST IN BRAZIL AND THE DISRUPTION OF NORMAL ANGOLAN EXPORTS HAVE BEEN PRIMARY CAUSES OF THE CURRENT SHORTAGE. THEIR OWN INVESTIGTIONS HAVE NOT TURNED UP ANY PARICULARLY UNUSUAL PRACTICES BY PRODUCERS.

2. THESE OFFICIALS APPEAR TO GO ALONG WITH CONTENTION THAT RECENT BRAZILIAN COFFEE PURCHAES FROM EL SALVADOR AND OTHERS WERE TO MAINTAIN ITS SOLUBLE COFFEE PROCUCTION.
THEY ADD THAT CONSUMERS SHOULD OPPOSE COUNTING THESE PRUCHASES IN PROCURER COUNTRY QUOTAS FOR THE NEW INTERNATIONAL COFFEE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREEMENT.

3. PRIOR TO THE PRICE INCREASE, THE EC HAD DECIDED AS PART OF ITS MTN TROPICAL PRODUCTS OFFER TO REDUCE AUTONOUMOUSLY ITS AD VALOREM IMPORT DUTIES ON GREEN COFFEE FROM 7 TO 5 PERCENT EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1,

1977.	THEY SAY TH	AT THIS REDU	JCTION WILL	HELP SOME	WHAT TO	REDUCE
THE	RURDEN ON TI	HE CONSUME	R OF INCREA	SED PRICES	HINTON	

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## Message Attributes

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